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STATE OF CALIFORNIA

## Fish and Game Commission

HENRY CLINESCHMIDT. PRESIDENT
1444 WILLIS STREET
REDDING. CALIFORNIA

May 13, 1964

Honorable James K. Carr, Under Secretary United States Department of the Interior Washington, D. C.

Dear Jim:

I would like to bring to your attention a historical location here in Shasta County which is passing unnoticed, and which should be considered as one of the historic points in American, California and Shasta County history.

John Pelnar, Manager of the Coleman National Fish Hatchery, told me recently that we have an unusual historical place in our midst that ought to be recorded and a monument placed to preserve it.

You are familiar with the old Baird site, now under the water of Shasta Reservoir. John tells me that this is the site of the old United States Commission Hatchery, originated in 1873, and it was here that this old commission, now part of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, first carried on Chinook salmon fish cultural work under Dr. Livingston Stone in 1873.

The U. S. Fish Commissioner, John J. Brice, reported in his annual report of 1896, "that due to the enormous distribution of the Chinook salmon for commercial purposes, the necessity for its artificial propagation became manifest at an early period in the Pacific fisheries." Thus in 1873 our national government recognized the need to take care of these fish in the Sacramento-McCloud rivers.

Now, over 90 years after these original attempts to artificially propagate Chinook salmon on the Pacific Coast, we find the descendants of this species still striving to perpetuate themselves under the terrific odds of mankind's progress. Your Coleman Fish Hatchery is the replacement of the old Baird Hatchery, and these salmon are still with us despite the terrific obstacles.

In the light of such history, I feel a suitable monument should be erected, as near the old Baird site as is possible, to record for the future the historic events of 1873 under Livingston Stone.

LESLIE F. EDGERTON
ASSISTANT TO THE
COMMISSION

MONICA O'BRIEN SECRETARY TO THE COMMISSION I am sure you recall the site, having been in the area for many years, and you are familiar with the salmon story of the Sacramento River. The marking of this historic event by a native Californian of your prominence would indeed be something for all of us to applaud. I know of nowhere in our country where an event of this kind has been dedicated. Surely this is something for future generations to have knowledge of, as well as battlefields, fish canneries, powerhouses, dams, etc.

Would you consider this? I am sure adequate recordings of this event are in the national archives for dates, places and people.

Sincerely yours,

Hark

Henry Clineschmidt, President California Fish and Game Commission

HC:rs/am

CC John Pelnar, Coleman National Fish Hatchery
U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Portland
U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D. C.
Director, Department of Fish and Game
Regional Manager, Region 1, Department of Fish and Game
Paul Bodenhamer, Redding Record
John Reginato, Shasta Cascade Wonderland Association
Hugo Fisher, Administrator, Resources Agency

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Decre Hanks

Many thenks for your recent letter regarding the old heist site in chests desiry, collifornia, and the part it played in the development of the Chinch edition in the Adequatio-McClaud Rivers.

As you probably keep, the Malical Fury Corvice is presently commuting the Sational Survey of Historic Sites and Saildings to determine which sites and objects are of national importance. For this surpose the field of American history has been divided into periods or themes ranging in time five early men almost to the present. These Will, "Conserce and Industry," has not yet been emploted. This sludy will consider and evaluate the historical significance of such places as the beird site. To insure that it to not overlooked, I am easking a copy of your letter and of this reply to the Regional Director of the Park Service's Vectors Regional Office in our Francisco, Colifbraic. I um sure the historians in that office will be are whil for this information.

Thinks again for bringing this to my attention.

Binumely yours.

(sgd) James K. Carr

under Goordbary of the Interior

Mr. Hovery Glinewschuldt President, California Fish and Gree Comateston WHA Willia Obreat Fedding, California

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